

THE KENTUCKY HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS: THE STORIES OF KENTUCKY



WHAT'S MY STORY?

I PROVIDED LIGHT AND WARMTH FOR FLOYD COLLINS.

In January 1925, Floyd Collins set out to find a second entrance to Crystal Cave, which he had discovered in 1917. He became trapped, and despite best efforts, including using this light for heat, Collins died days before rescuers reached him on Feb. 16. The Collins story attracted worldwide news coverage, and the site became a media circus. Charles Lindbergh (not yet famous for his Atlantic Ocean crossing) was hired to fly updates to major news outlets. The Collins tragedy inspired a song in 1925 and even – as late as the 1990s – a musical.

Access this object (1939.291) and more than 100,000 others through the Kentucky Historical Society's [online object catalog](#) and learn the stories of Kentucky.



100 W. Broadway, Frankfort
502-564-1792 | history.ky.gov

The Kentucky Historical Society (KHS) educates and engages the public through Kentucky's history in order to confront the challenges of the future. KHS, an agency of the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet, is fully accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and is a Smithsonian affiliate.